

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SCS-01 SCA-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-01

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R 171604Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1443

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7620

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, CI, UK

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF BRITISH SUBJECT

REF: SANTIAGO 7362

1. AS POSSIBLY RELEVANT TO RECENT US EXPERIENCE INVOLVING VIOLATION OF TERMS OF VIENNA CONSULAR CONVENTION IN AMY CONGER O'FLAHERTY CASE, WE REPORT FOLLOWING.

2. A BRITISH NATIONAL WAS RECENTLY DETAINED FOR FIVE WEEKS BEFORE THE BRITISH EMBASSY BY CHANCE BECAME AWARE OF HER DETENTION. GOC NEVER NOTIFIED THAT EMBASSY OF DETENTION. WHEN HE LEARNED OF IT, BRITISH CONSUL IMMEDIATELY MADE ORAL INQUIRY AT FONMINISTRY, WHICH REQUESTED INFORMATION OF INTERIOR MINISTRY.

3. BRITISH EVENTUALLY OBTAINED VERIFICATION OF CITIZEN'S ARREST FROM OTHER SOURCES, AND BRITISH AMBASSADOR CONVEYED HIS CONCERN DIRECTLY TO FONMIN, AND THEN TO FONOFF DIRECTOR GENERAL. NEXT DAY FONMINISTRY ACKNOWLEDGED DETENTION OF "DUAL NATIONAL," WHO MINISTRY SAID WOULD BE RELEASED AND SENT TO UK.

4. TEN DAYS ELAPSED BETWEEN THE FIRST INQUIRY BY THE BRITISH
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AND DETAINEE'S RELEASE. (INITIALLY THE BRITISH HAD SUBMITTED

PERSON'S LAST NAME INCORRECTLY USING BULL INSTEAD OF BALL.
HOWEVER, THEY DO NOT CONSIDER THIS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE
IN DELAY.) THE BRITISH CONSUL DID NOT SEE DETAINEE UNTIL SHE
WAS TAKEN TO AIRPORT BY GOC OFFICIALS. ONLY THEN WAS IT
LEARNED SHE WAS NOT DUAL NATIONAL, BUT BRITISH CITIZEN
TEMPORARILY IN CHILE.

5. BRITISH TELL US VERY CONFIDENTIALLY THAT HMG NOW
CONTEMPLATING FORMAL PROTEST.
POPPER

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NNN

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